

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) A ship for transport and mounting of structures, said ship (1) comprising a hull (2) having at least four vertically movable support legs (9) engaged thereto and displacement means for moving the support legs (9) upward and downward relative to the hull (2), the support legs (9) mounted in at least two consoles (5) ~~connected~~ fixedly mounted to a right side and a left side of the hull by first means, the ship having at least one crane (11), for handling and placing the structures, the displacement means ~~having adjustment means for~~ adjusting the position of the support legs (9) ~~so that~~ for lifting the ship (1) is liftable attached thereto to such an extent that waves up to a certain preselected size do not destabilize the ship (1), during the handling and placing of the structures by the crane, with a bottom of the ship remaining below sea surface ~~the ship having at least one crane (11), for handling and placing the structures below the waterline.~~

10. (Previously Presented) The ship according to claim 9 wherein the consoles (5) comprise at least one sleeve (14) coated with a friction reducing substance on an inner surface thereof, said inner surface enclosing a portion of an outer circumference of a support leg (9).

11. (Previously Presented) The ship according to claim 9 wherein the displacement means comprise at least one wire winch (8) attached to each of said support legs (9) and a hydraulic system attached thereto.

12. (Previously Presented) The ship according to claim 9 wherein the support legs each comprise load cells (13).

13. (Previously Presented) The ship according to claim 9 further comprising hollow

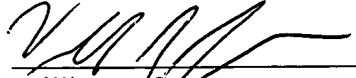
spaces or chambers (12) in the hull (2) and a control system, said hollow spaces or chambers being filled with or emptied of water via the control system.

14. (Previously Presented) The ship according claim 9 wherein an upper end surface of each console (5) is placed on a level with a deck (4) of the ship.

15. (Previously Presented) The ship according to claim 9 wherein a lower end surface of each console (5) is placed at a level distant from a waterline of the ship, between the waterline and a bottom of the ship.

16. (Previously Presented) The ship according to claim 9 wherein in the first means comprise a rail secured to the hull and fastening means.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. J. Sapone', written over a horizontal line.

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